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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

7 APRIL 2020

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) California – Nearly 130-Pounds of Methamphetamine Hidden in Vehicles

(U) Campo – US Border Patrol agents at a freeway checkpoint in Campo intercepted nearly 130-pounds of meth in separate incidents on Friday and Sunday, authorities said. The combined estimated street value of the drugs was more than \$291,000, according to a statement from Border Patrol officials. The drivers of both vehicles were US citizens. Agents discovered 80 plastic-wrapped packages of meth hidden in one vehicle under one the front floorboards, front and rear seats, beneath the dashboard, inside the back-seat pockets, and inside the taillights and air filter, officials said in a statement. Agents found 74 bundles, about 41-pounds, of meth in the gas tank of the other vehicle.

SOURCE: 6 April 2020, [San Diego Union Tribune](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Texas – US Border Patrol Intercepts a Large Human Smuggling Attempt

(U) Laredo – The incident occurred during the early hours of 5 April, when a white tractor hauling a trailer approached the I-35 checkpoint. During an immigration inspection of the driver, a service canine alerted to the rear of the trailer. Agents opened the trailer and discovered 32 individuals, including one juvenile, all illegally present in the US from the countries of Mexico, Guatemala, Ecuador, and El Salvador. The individuals and the driver, a US citizen, were taken into custody pending investigation. Smugglers continue their activities despite the COVID-19 pandemic.

SOURCE: 6 April 2020, [CBP Newsroom](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) North Carolina – California Man Arrested for Drugs at COVID-19 Checkpoint

(U) Manns Harbor – David Raney, 61-year-old from California, was arrested at a Dare County COVID-19 checkpoint following the discovery of illicit drugs in his car. The Dare County Sheriff's office says a deputy working the checkpoint at Manns Harbor stopped the man amid the ban on people who do not live, work, or own property from entering the county to try to lessen the impact of the virus and smelled marijuana. A search of the car found 13-pounds of cannabis and some cocaine, psychedelic mushrooms, ecstasy, and LSD.

SOURCE: 6 April 2020, [WLOS News](#)

(U) South Carolina – USCG Cutter Returns after Counter-Drug Operation in Eastern Pacific Ocean

(U) Charleston – US Coast Guard Cutter Hamilton returned to its home port in Charleston following an 80-day patrol in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. Before returning home, the crew offloaded more than \$320 million worth of cocaine and marijuana at Port Everglades on Friday. The drugs were seized after deploying in late January to serve as the first National Security Cutter to participate in a Navy Composite Training Unit Exercise along with the Coast Guard's Helicopter Interdiction Tactical Squadron. During the operation, Hamilton's crew seized three drug-laden vessels, two of them semi-submersibles, and apprehended eight suspected traffickers. The two suspected smugglers purposely scuttled their vessel in

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an alleged attempt to prevent Hamilton's crew from locating any contraband. Hamilton also assisted in the removal of another seven-tons of cocaine and 1,400-pounds of marijuana seized from a heavily trafficked transit zone by Coast Guard Cutters Legare, Vigilant, Tampa, Tahoma, Steadfast, Mohawk, Navy vessel USS Tornado, and the Canadian vessel HMCS Nanaimo.

SOURCE: 6 April 2020, [Counton News](#)

(U) Tennessee – Police Arrest Two Men for 'Terroristic Threats' Involving COVID-19

(U) Memphis – According to the West Memphis Police Department, officers responded to a disturbance on 2 April at 10 p.m. where they encountered 58-year-old Steve Thomas. Police say Thomas advanced on officers, telling them he had COVID-19. In a separate, unrelated incident on 3 April, officers responded to a noise complaint at the home of 33-year-old Justin Ulrich. The call was handled without incident, but police say Ulrich later posted on social media a picture from his home surveillance system, saying the officers were exposed to COVID-19. Both men were arrested for falsely communicating a terroristic threat and booked into the Crittenden County Jail.

SOURCE: 7 April 2020, [WMC Action News](#)

(U) Utah – Man Allegedly Crashes Car into FBI HQ to Get Agent's Attention

(U) Salt Lake City – Robert Joseph Hibbard, a 49-year-old who held a hostage at the FBI's Salt Lake headquarters eight years ago, allegedly crashed his car into the building's security gate Sunday because he wanted to talk to an agent. Hibbard told investigators that he had asked a security guard at the visitor entrance to speak with an agent but was told one wasn't available, the complaint says. The guard gave him a telephone number for the office and Hibbard left. He drove to a nearby gas station and called the number, but no one answered. He became upset and drove back to the building, driving around it several times before crashing his Toyota minivan through the northeast gate, according to the complaint.

SOURCE: 6 April 2020, [KSL News](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) China – Country Reports No New COVID-19 Deaths as Cases Decline

(U) Beijing – Mainland China reported no COVID-19 deaths for the first time since the pandemic began, and a drop in new cases, a day before the central city of Wuhan, where the virus emerged late in December 2019, is set to lift its lockdown. For the first time since the commission began publishing nationwide data in late January, Hubei's provincial capital of Wuhan saw no new deaths, joining the rest of mainland China, which has recorded none since 31 March. Wuhan, a city of 11 million that reported only two new infections in the past fortnight is due to allow residents to leave the city on Wednesday, for the first time since it was locked down on 23 January to curb the spread of the virus.

SOURCE: 6 April 2020, [Reuters](#)

(U) Mali – 20 Soldiers Killed in Attack by Extremists

(U) Bamako – Some 20 Malian soldiers were killed in an apparent extremist attack Monday in the latest bout of violence in the war-torn West African state. Militants attacked a military base in the northern town of Bamba early on Monday morning, according to a local government official, who called the assailants "terrorists" and said at least 20 soldiers had died. Another local official gave a similar account, explaining that the militants arrived on motorbikes and in cars. "Investigations are still ongoing on the ground because the death toll must be higher than the 20 deaths announced," the official said. Mali has been struggling to contain an extremist revolt that first broke out in the north in 2012, and which has since spread to the center of the country and to neighboring Burkina Faso and Niger.

SOURCE: 6 April 2020, [Arab News](#)

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UNCLASSIFIED**(U) United Kingdom – PM Boris Johnson Receives Oxygen in ICU as He Continues COVID-19 Battle**

(U) London – British Prime Minister Boris Johnson was being given oxygen as he remained in intensive care Tuesday while battling COVID-19. The 55-year-old leader, who announced on 27 March that he tested positive for COVID-19, spent Monday night in the intensive care unit of London's St Thomas' Hospital, which directly overlooks Parliament. Johnson is being given oxygen but "the prime minister is not on a ventilator," announced Cabinet Office Minister Michael Gove, who also went into isolation after a family member showed symptoms. The prime minister remained conscious and had not been diagnosed with pneumonia.

SOURCE: 7 April 2020, [NY Post](#)

(U) United Kingdom – 'Neo-Nazi' Boy Accused of Encouraging Terror Attacks

(U) London – A 16-year-old alleged neo-Nazi has been charged with terror offenses including encouraging attacks. The boy, who cannot be named for legal reasons, is from Newcastle and appeared at Westminster Magistrates' Court on Monday. He was arrested in October 2019 as part of a police investigation into suspected right-wing terrorism online. The boy has been charged with four counts of inviting support for the neo-Nazi terrorist group National Action and three offences of encouraging terrorism. He is also accused of three counts of stirring up racial hatred and one count of stirring up religious hatred.

SOURCE: 6 April 2020, [Independent](#)

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